

ALTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes
Public Session
April 18, 2011
ALTON TOWN HALL

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At 6:00pm Chairman Hussey convened the Board of Selectmen and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence. Members present included the following members of the Board and staff:

- David Hussey, Chairman
- R. Loring Carr, Vice-Chair
- Stephan McMahan, Selectman
- Peter Bolster, Selectman
- R. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

Note: Selectman Fuller Absent

Approval of the Agenda – R. Bailey motioned to amend the agenda adding item #5 to Old Business - to Review Fireworks Agreement also to add Review of Assessing, Gravel and Carpet bids as items 5 &6, L. Carr asked about adding an item to New business #4, the Traffic Circle Project. S. McMahan moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by L. Carr and passed with all in favor.

Announcement – D. Hussey announced the Rabies Clinic to be held on April 30th.

Appointment – Alton Business Association: present Roger Sample, Chris Racine, Reuben Wentworth and Paul LaRochelle. R. Sample stated that the Selectmen are not considering businesses (in regards to the construction at the Traffic Circle) He noted the winter carnival, that it had to be cancelled also that a Selectmen was ‘badmouthing the association in a restaurant. P. Bolster stated he was in a restaurant and he advised those there it was not a Selectmen’s decision to cancel the Winter Carnival, that was a decision made by the Alton Business Association. R. Sample continued businesses will be affected by construction work at the rotary.

C. Racine explained their concern is how this project will affect the local businesses in Town, their letter to the Board explains how this project will affect local businesses in Town big or small as it is a main entrance into Town, but the ABA has never seen anything from our Town representatives about helping businesses through this construction including communication from the town administrator. She suggested that the Board send options that can help members and non-members through this loss of income and loss of business and lack of information.

In a rebuttal D. Hussey stated the ABA should not blame the Selectmen for a lack of information a public hearing was sponsored by the ABA and a second Public Hearing held by the Selectmen that was duly publicized and posted. The Selectmen were in agreement that no organization including the ABA should receive an individual invitation to attend a meeting when a Public Hearing will be held. In further discussion the ABA members were advised that they have ensured Main Street will not be shut down, work should be completed in a timely manner and will shut down on Friday afternoons, the members and Town Administrator are in communication with the NH DOT and addressed other concerns expressed by the ABA members present. D. Hussey advised members could call him personally if they had other concerns, S. McMahon also advised he would take telephone calls as well. The Board and ABA members also reviewed issues leading up to cancellation of the Winter Carnival – Ice Runway. ABA member Paul LaRochelle , Aviation Consultant stated that contrary to rumor the runway was shut down that day due to protocol and many safety issues concerning the ice conditions.

Selectmen's Committee Reports

Loring Carr – L. Carr noted that he and D. Hussey had looked at the Town Trucks at the highway Department , and advised that they felt no new truck would be needed this year. There is one more truck to look at. Also at the Police Department.

Peter Bolster – P. Bolster updated the Board on the Fundraiser Committee efforts on behalf of the Pearson Road community Center, that twenty or so individuals had met for a brainstorming session. Information is being compiled which will be presented to the Selectmen for consideration. He thanked Town Planner, Kenneth McWilliams who has continued to guide the process along. Several volunteers in the contracting business have volunteered to help. Once all the recommendations are approved, a fund drive will commence.

Town Administrator Reports & Updates

Russell Bailey – R. Bailey advised he had received a letter from Maxfield Realty requesting that Town employees not park in front of their agency. After a brief discussion including the use of 'hash marks' this matter was tabled until the next meeting.

R. Bailey presented samples of police log for the board's review, including a summary of calls, codes from a dispatch log and a format. L. Carr moved to go forward with the sample format, seconded by P. bolster to begin within a week, and the motion passed with all in favor.

Public Input - Barbara Howard noted she had paid \$14 for a copy of a Police Log. She stated that in her opinion public knowledge stops crime. There is too much wasteful spending. She formally requested a study to be done under the guidance of the Sheriff's Department. D. Hussey advised the Board is aware of her concerns, and is part of the goals and objections of the Selectmen, not just for the Police but every Department, to improve efficiency, costs, etc.

Approval of Selectmen's Minutes –

S. McMahon motioned to approve the Minutes of April 4th, March 31st Public Session I and Public Session II and also Public Session II for March 24th, 2011., seconded by L. Carr and passed with all in favor. S McMahon motioned to approve the Sealed minutes of April 4th, March 31st and March 24th as submitted, seconded by L. Carr and passed.

Review of Non-Public Session Minutes - Approval to Release Items from Non-Public Session Minutes - S. McMahon motioned to release items from non-public minutes as follows:

April 4th, 2011 – Items # 1 & 5

March 24, 2011 - Items # 1,4 &7

The motion was seconded and passed with all in favor.

Old Business

- 1) Places Mill Bridge Grant – R. Bailey advised eight bids had been received, and Dubois & King, Town Engineers has recommended G.W. Brooks the low bidder for \$322,295.30, once the Selectmen approve this recommendation, it will then go to the NH DOT, subject for their review . D. Hussey motioned to approve G.W. Brooks, seconded by S. McMahon and passed with all in favor. Part of this cost will be offset by grants.
- 2) Police Department Grants – R. Bailey advised these are highway safety grants for DWI, Speeding and Motorcycle, they cover the additional over time hours for police patrols and a line item had been approved for these. The Board voted to approve the motorcycle grant but the others were tabled until the next meeting to provide the Selectmen an opportunity to review back up information.
- 3) Selectmen's Goals and Objectives - The Board reviewed their Goals and objectives for 2011 (see attached draft) and agreed to combine items and bring this matter back to a workshop session to work on this list and prioritize items.

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- 4) The Board agreed to go out to bid on infrastructure to include sidewalk concrete work and a concrete apron at the Central Fire Station.
- 5) Fireworks – R. Bailey advised he needs the Board's approval to sign the agreement for Atlas Fireworks. L. Carr motioned to grant the Town Administrator approval to sign the Atlas Fire Works Agreement, seconded by D. Hussey and passed.
- 6) Assessing Bids – R. Bailey stated that four (4) bids had been received. The low bidder was Commerford, an appraisal firm from Pembroke. He explained that the State has required an evaluation of the whole Town. L. Carr motioned to approve Commerford, in the amount of \$34,000, seconded by P. Bolster and passed with all in favor.
- 7) Transfer Station Bid – R. Bailey explained the Town needs to go out to bid on gravel for the facility. S. McMahon motioned to go out to bid for gravel plus trucking, seconded by D. Hussey and passed with all in favor.
- 8) Fire Department Carpet – R. Bailey advised four bids had been received and recommended Alton Tile the low bidder. P. Bolster motioned to award the bid as recommended, seconded by S. McMahon in the amount of \$1420 and passed with all in favor.

New Business

- 1) Vote to Approve Land Use Items – L. Carr read the items as presented by the Town Assessor and motion to accept the recommendations and to sign appropriately, seconded by D. Hussey and passed with all in favor.
- 2) E911 Road Name - L. Carr motioned to change the name on a portion of Larry Drive so called, to Heidke Drive for clarification purposes, seconded by D. Hussey and passed with all in favor.
- 3) Annual Landfill Closure Report – Before this report is submitted, it was noted to include missing pages.
- 4) Alton Traffic Circle - The Board discussed the best way to use police enforcement at the circle. It was agreed to have the Chief present for a discussion on this issue. This matter was tabled.

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Public Input – Barbara Howard stated in her personal opinion homeland security grants have jacked up line items for the police department, but it is not free, it is a debt borne by taxpayers. Only 3 grant items are in the budget.

Non-Public Session – At approximately 9:40pm, the Chairman motioned to enter into non-public session, the motion was seconded and the Chairman polled the members who each voted in the affirmative and the motion passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Rockwood, Secretary

Minutes Approved: May 16, 2011